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SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
CONTROL
#1
OF 2
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 264
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WHOA-HO-HO! KITTY'S GOT CLAWS --AND LASERS
SONIC FASTEST THING ALIVE
SPAZ

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

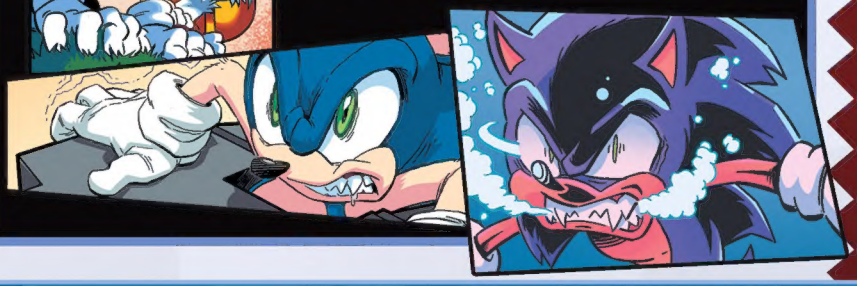
PREVIOUSLY...

THE PLANET IS IN PIECES!

The world's crust has broken apart, leaving the continents free-floating in the sky! Sonic and the Freedom Fighters are in search of the seven Chaos Emeralds and Gaia Temples. With their power, our heroes hope to return the world to normal!

What makes things especially dangerous is the essence of Dark Gaia seeping through the cracks in the earth. This corrupting muck creates terrifying monsters every night and darkens the hearts and minds of those exposed to it.

Sonic received a face-full of concentrated Dark Gaia energy days ago. He swears he's fine, **but something isn't right...**



WHO'S WHO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLD FAMOUS HERO

AMY ROSE
HAMMER-SWINGING HEROINE
& SALLY ACORN
PRINCESS & TACTICIAN

MIGHTY THE ARMADILLO
LAID-BACK TITAN
& RAY THE FLYING SQUIRREL
SUPER FLYER

???

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CONTROL
Part One: BREAKING POINT

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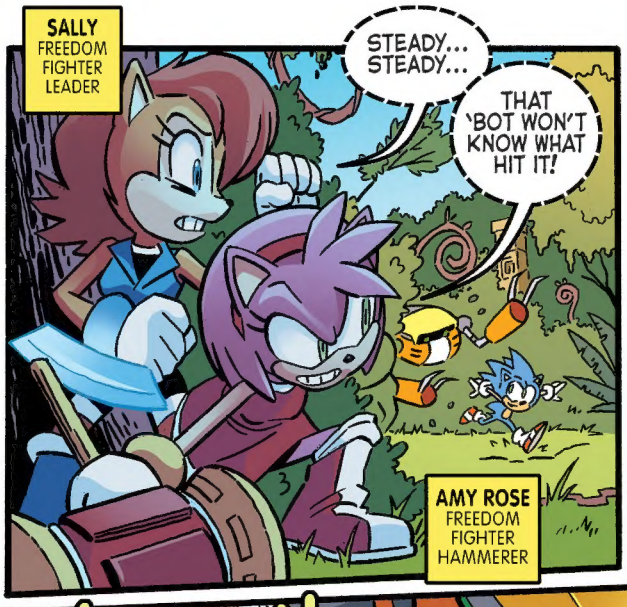
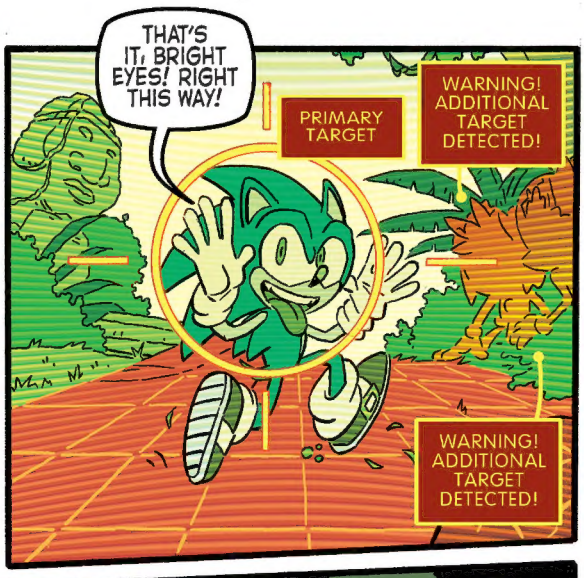
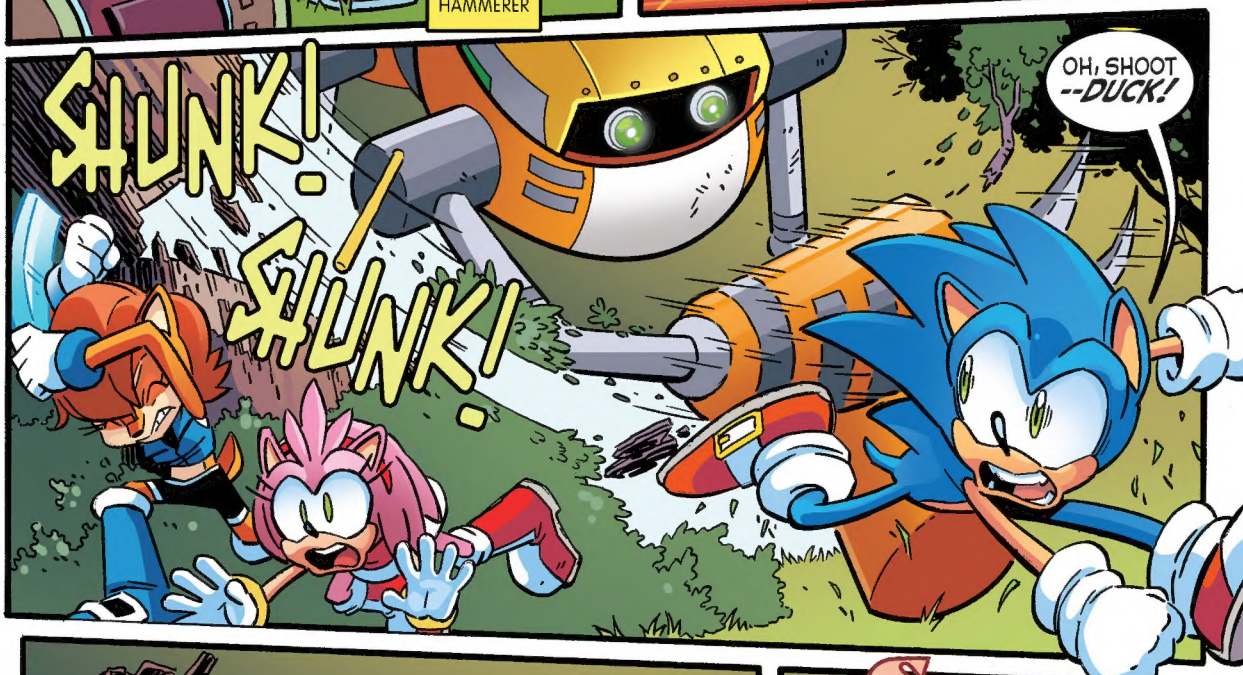

SALLY
FREEDOM FIGHTER LEADER
STEADY... STEADY...
THAT 'BOT WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT IT!
AMY ROSE
FREEDOM FIGHTER HAMMERER

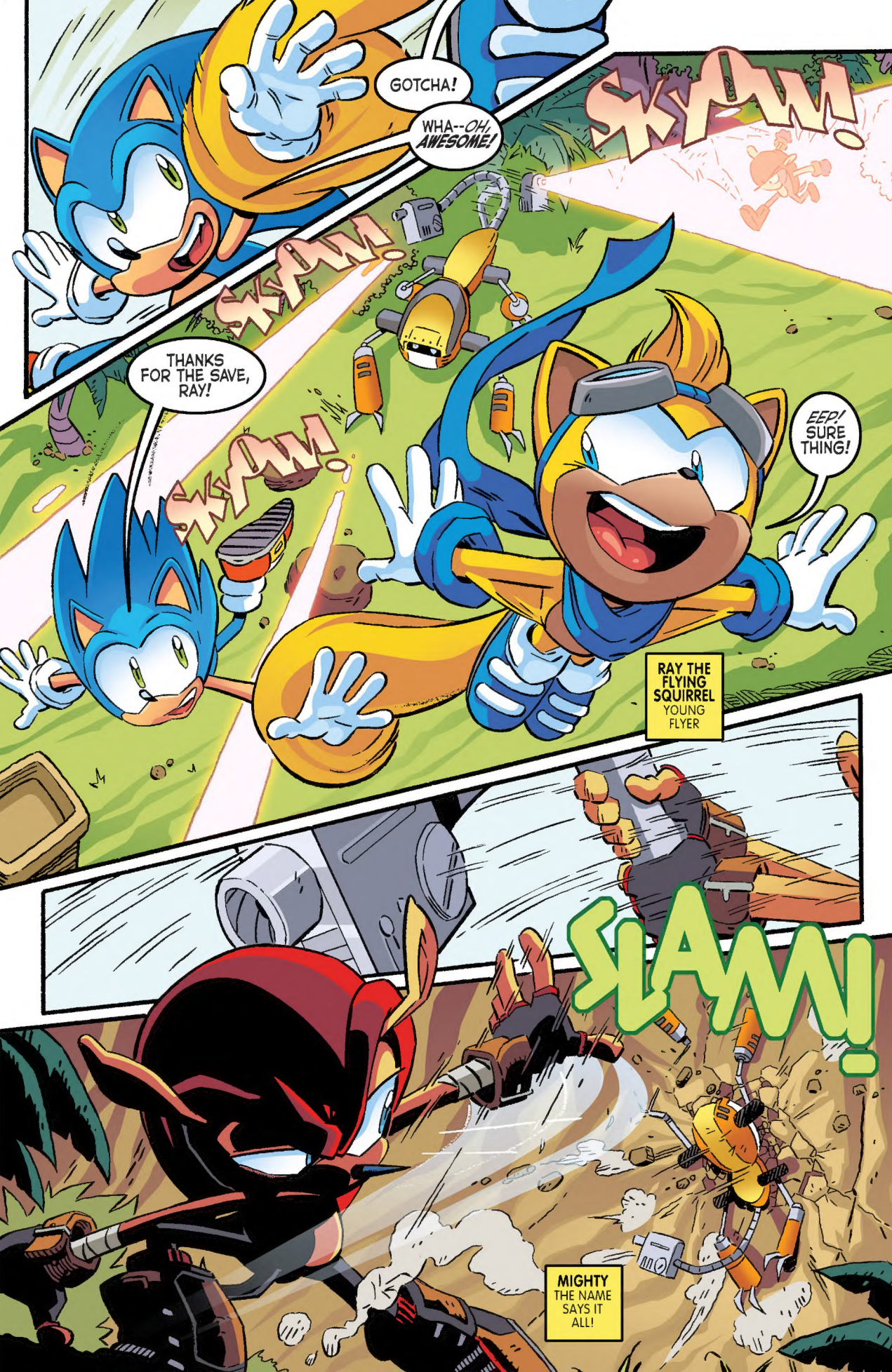

THAT'S IT, BRIGHT EYES! RIGHT THIS WAY!
PRIMARY TARGET
WARNING! ADDITIONAL TARGET DETECTED!
WARNING! ADDITIONAL TARGET DETECTED!


SHUNK!
SHUNK!
OH, SHOOT --DUCK!

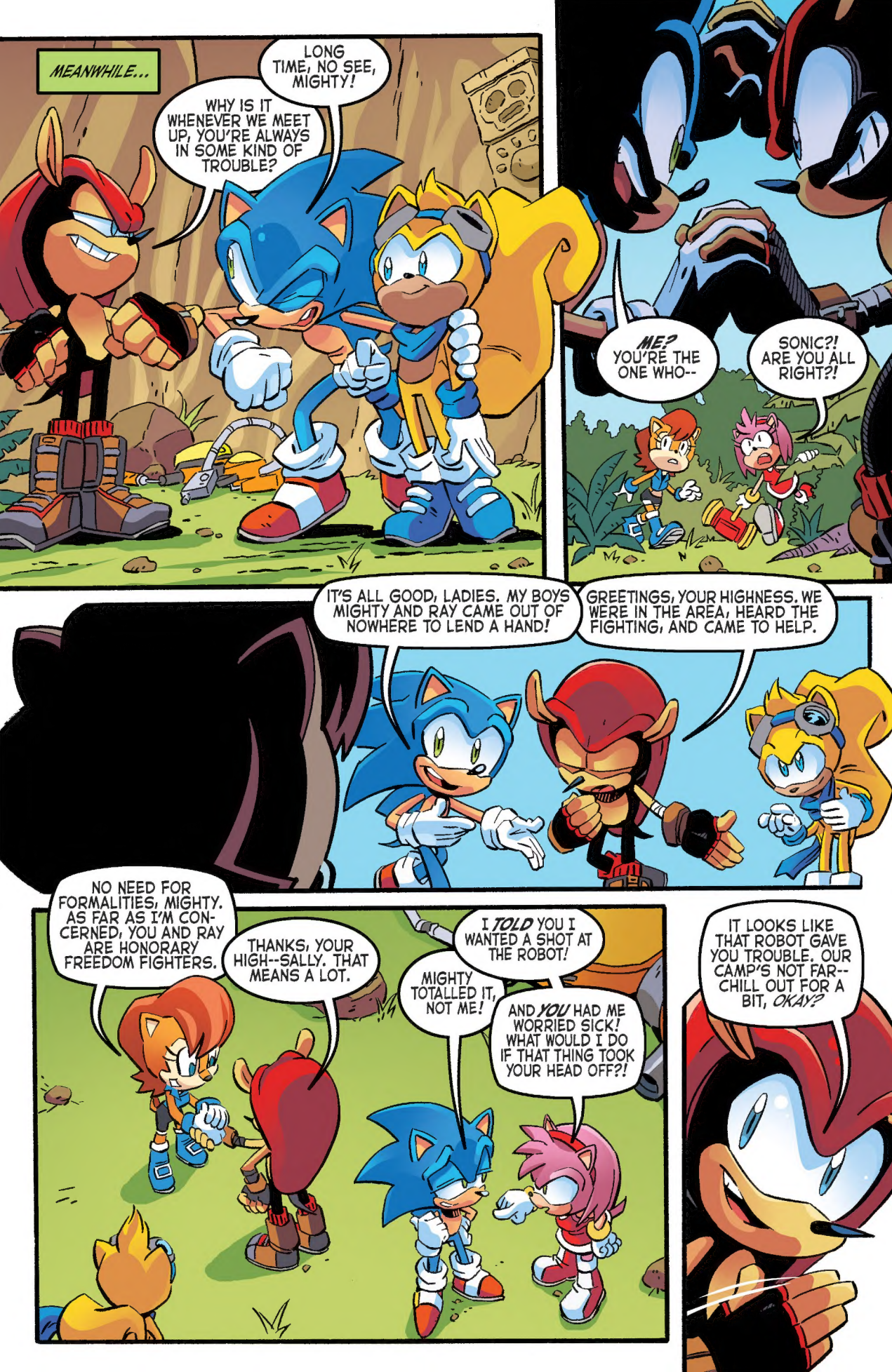
WE'RE FINE! PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THAT THING AND REGROUP WITH US!
DON'T HOG IT ALL TO YOURSELF, FOR ONCE! I WANT A WHACK AT IT!

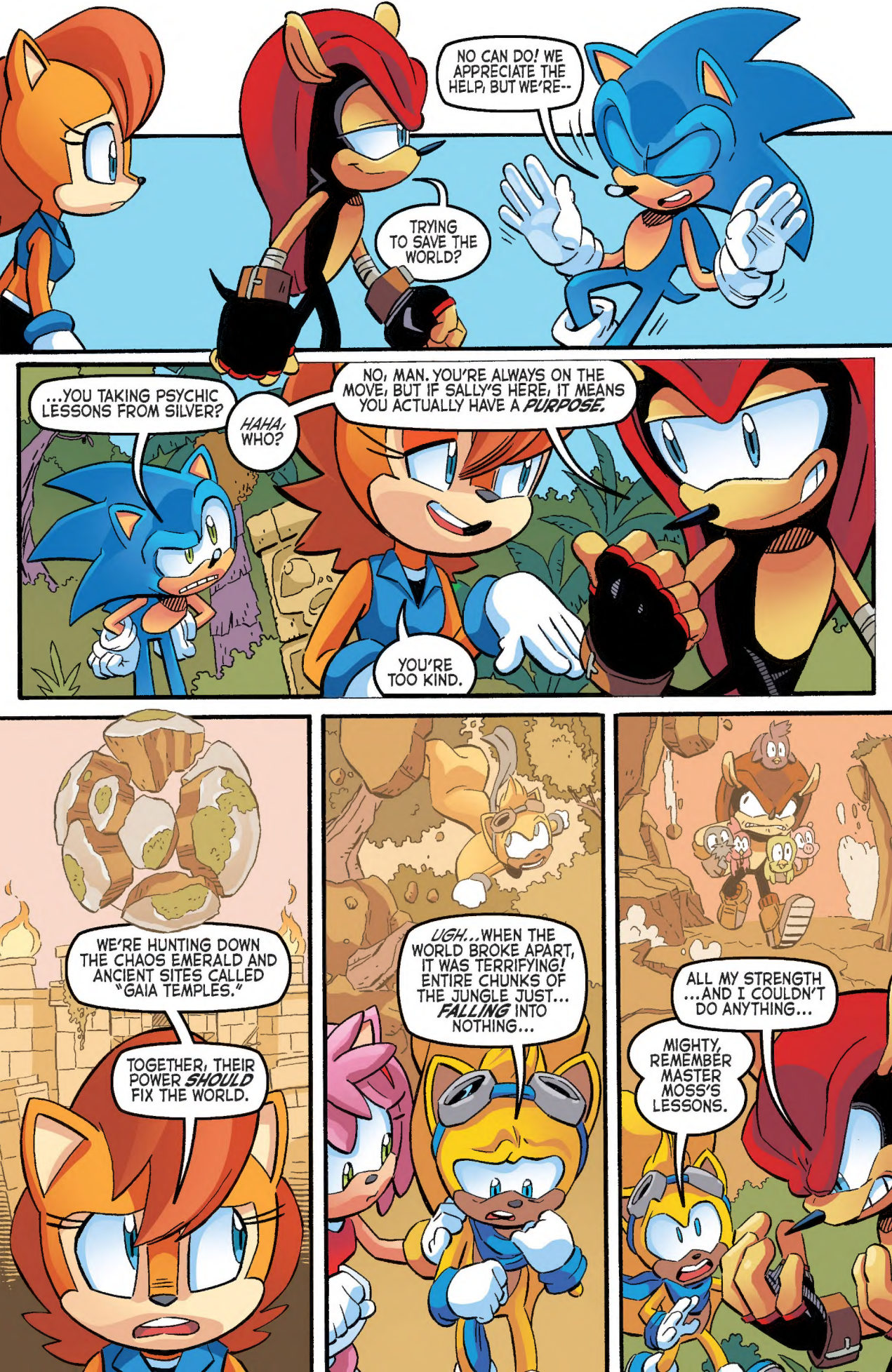
SKYAW!
EASIER SAID THAN DONE, LADIES!

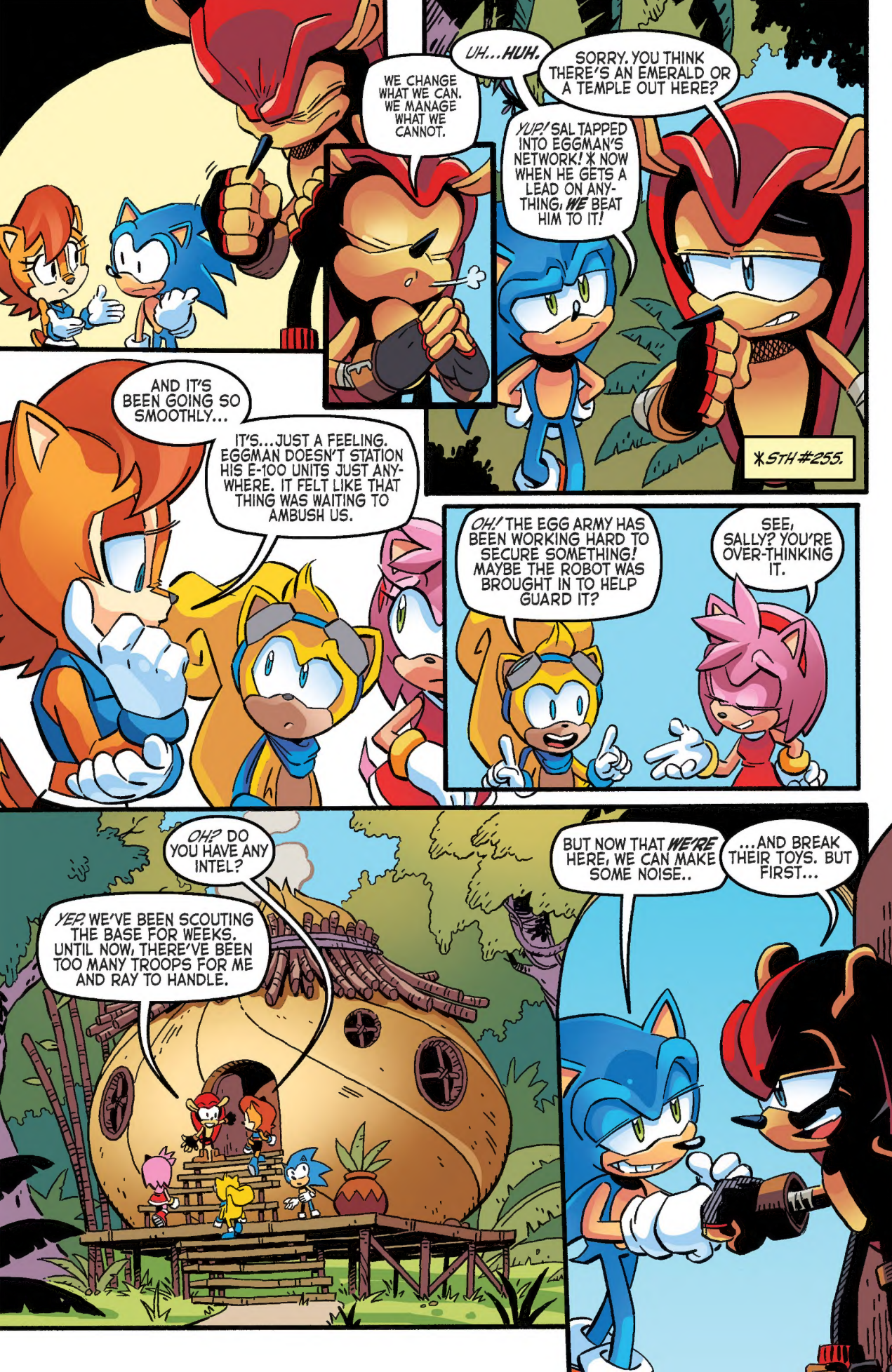
GOTTA HAND IT TO THE DOC--HIS E-100 BOTS ALWAYS GIVE ME A WORKOUT...*
*SEE SONIC ADVENTURE--THE GAME & STH #258-259.
...BUT I'VE NEVER TECHNICALLY LOST TO ONE YET. AND I DON'T PLAN ON CHANGING THAT!
SKYAW
BLAM!
YOW!
...LUCKY SHOT, JERK...

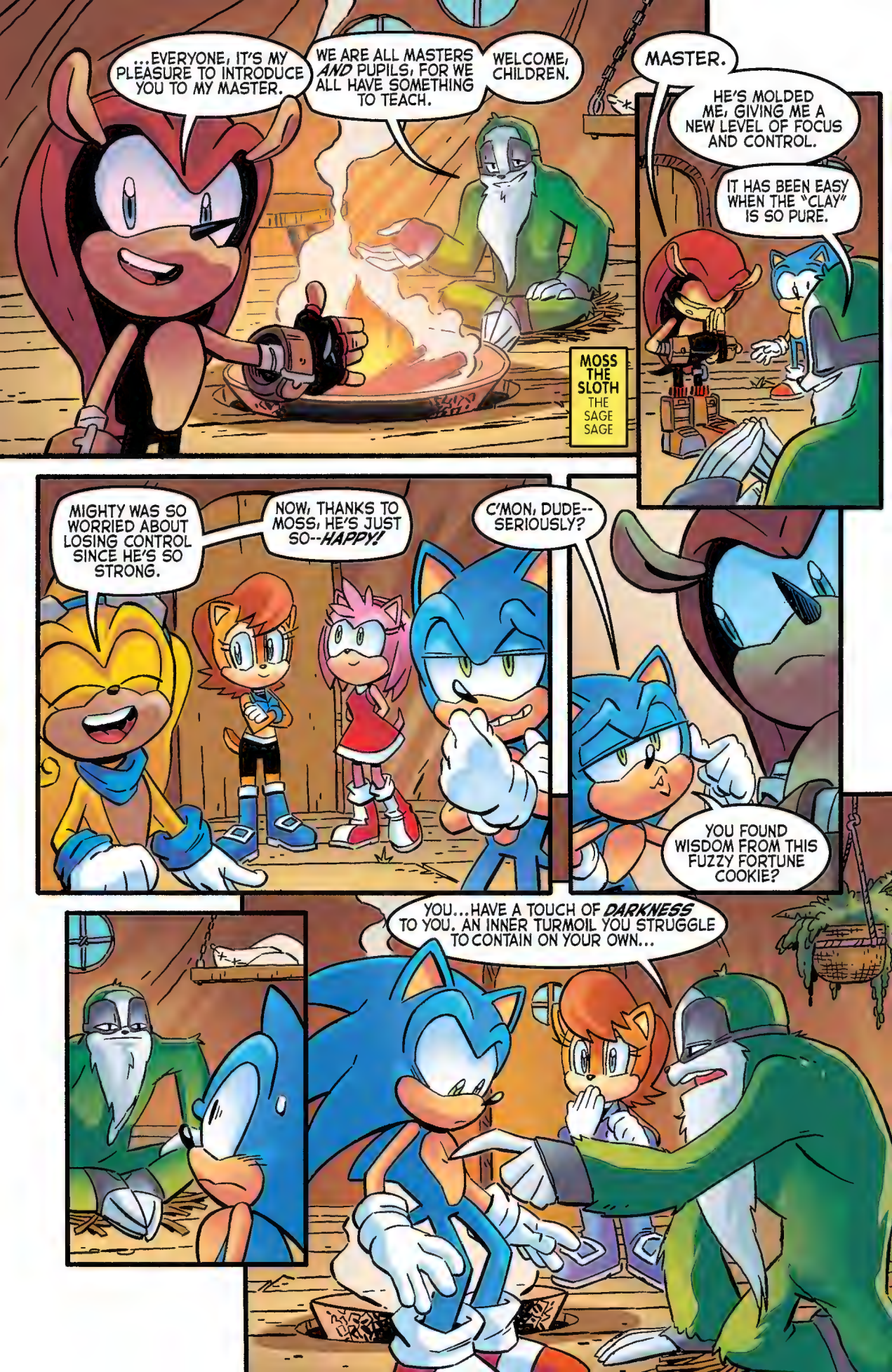

GOTCHA!
WHA--OH, AWESOME!
SKYPAW!
SKYPAW!
SKYPAW!
THANKS FOR THE SAVE, RAY!
EEP! SURE THING!
RAY THE FLYING SQUIRREL YOUNG FLYER
SLAM!
MIGHTY THE NAME SAYS IT ALL!

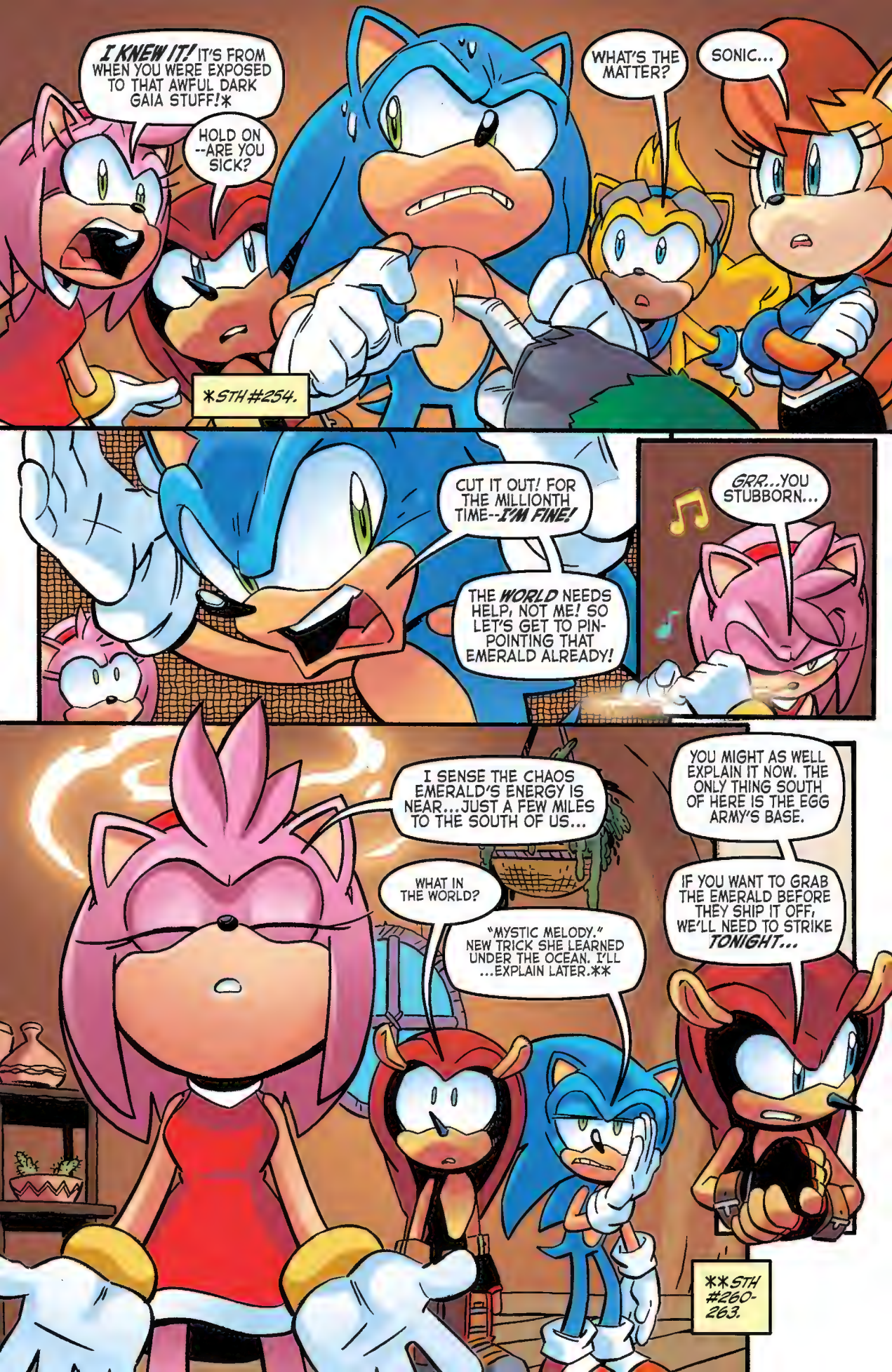
AT THE NEAREST EGG ARMY BASE...
E-113 XI OFFLINE
WHAT HAPPENED ?!
≥GULP!≤ UM...WELL...XI REPORTED IT WAS CLOSING IN ON SONIC. AND THEN... IT WENT OFFLINE.
I--I CAN SEND A RECOVERY TEAM TO...
UNACCEPTABLE!
LORD EGGMAN ENTRUSTED ONE OF HIS PRIZED SUPER-BADNIKS TO US! TO LOSE IT SO QUICKLY IS A TRUE DISGRACE!
E-EGG BOSS THUNDERBOLT, MA'AM! PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETE FOR YOUR PLAN!
LORD EGGMAN'S PLAN! WE SIMPLY HAVE THE PLEASURE OF MAKING IT HAPPEN!
SOON, WE WILL HAVE THE DISTINCTION OF BEING THE EGG ARMY UNIT THAT DESTROYED SONIC THE HEDGEHOG.


MEANWHILE...
LONG TIME, NO SEE, MIGHTY!
WHY IS IT WHENEVER WE MEET UP, YOU'RE ALWAYS IN SOME KIND OF TROUBLE?
ME? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO--
SONIC?! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
IT'S ALL GOOD, LADIES. MY BOYS MIGHTY AND RAY CAME OUT OF NOWHERE TO LEND A HAND!
GREETINGS, YOUR HIGHNESS. WE WERE IN THE AREA, HEARD THE FIGHTING, AND CAME TO HELP.
NO NEED FOR FORMALITIES, MIGHTY. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, YOU AND RAY ARE HONORARY FREEDOM FIGHTERS.
THANKS, YOUR HIGH--SALLY. THAT MEANS A LOT.
I TOLD YOU I WANTED A SHOT AT THE ROBOT!
MIGHTY TOTALLED IT, NOT ME!
AND YOU HAD ME WORRIED SICK! WHAT WOULD I DO IF THAT THING TOOK YOUR HEAD OFF?!
IT LOOKS LIKE THAT ROBOT GAVE YOU TROUBLE. OUR CAMP'S NOT FAR--CHILL OUT FOR A BIT, OKAY?


NO CAN DO! WE APPRECIATE THE HELP, BUT WE'RE--
TRYING TO SAVE THE WORLD?
...YOU TAKING PSYCHIC LESSONS FROM SILVER?
HAHA, WHO?
NO, MAN. YOU'RE ALWAYS ON THE MOVE, BUT IF SALLY'S HERE, IT MEANS YOU ACTUALLY HAVE A PURPOSE.
YOU'RE TOO KIND.
WE'RE HUNTING DOWN THE CHAOS EMERALD AND ANCIENT SITES CALLED "GAIA TEMPLES."
TOGETHER, THEIR POWER SHOULD FIX THE WORLD.
UGH...WHEN THE WORLD BROKE APART, IT WAS TERRIFYING! ENTIRE CHUNKS OF THE JUNGLE JUST... FALLING INTO NOTHING...
ALL MY STRENGTH ...AND I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING...
MIGHTY, REMEMBER MASTER MOSS'S LESSONS.


WE CHANGE WHAT WE CAN. WE MANAGE WHAT WE CANNOT.
UH...HUH.
SORRY. YOU THINK THERE'S AN EMERALD OR A TEMPLE OUT HERE?
YUP! SAL TAPPED INTO EGGMAN'S NETWORK! * NOW WHEN HE GETS A LEAD ON ANYTHING, WE BEAT HIM TO IT!
*STH #255.
AND IT'S BEEN GOING SO SMOOTHLY...
IT'S...JUST A FEELING. EGGMAN DOESN'T STATION HIS E-100 UNITS JUST ANYWHERE. IT FELT LIKE THAT THING WAS WAITING TO AMBUSH US.
OH! THE EGG ARMY HAS BEEN WORKING HARD TO SECURE SOMETHING! MAYBE THE ROBOT WAS BROUGHT IN TO HELP GUARD IT?
SEE, SALLY? YOU'RE OVER-THINKING IT.
OH? DO YOU HAVE ANY INTEL?
YEP. WE'VE BEEN SCOUTING THE BASE FOR WEEKS. UNTIL NOW, THERE'VE BEEN TOO MANY TROOPS FOR ME AND RAY TO HANDLE.
BUT NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, WE CAN MAKE SOME NOISE..
...AND BREAK THEIR TOYS. BUT FIRST...


...EVERYONE, IT'S MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY MASTER.
WE ARE ALL MASTERS AND PUPILS, FOR WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING TO TEACH.
WELCOME, CHILDREN.
MOSS THE SLOTH THE SAGE SAGE
MASTER.
HE'S MOLDED ME, GIVING ME A NEW LEVEL OF FOCUS AND CONTROL.
IT HAS BEEN EASY WHEN THE "CLAY" IS SO PURE.
MIGHTY WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT LOSING CONTROL SINCE HE'S SO STRONG.
NOW, THANKS TO MOSS, HE'S JUST SO--HAPPY!
C'MON, DUDE--SERIOUSLY?
YOU FOUND WISDOM FROM THIS FUZZY FORTUNE COOKIE?
YOU...HAVE A TOUCH OF DARKNESS TO YOU. AN INNER TURMOIL YOU STRUGGLE TO CONTAIN ON YOUR OWN...


I KNEW IT! IT'S FROM WHEN YOU WERE EXPOSED TO THAT AWFUL DARK GAIA STUFF!*
HOLD ON --ARE YOU SICK?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SONIC...
*STH #254.
CUT IT OUT! FOR THE MILLIONTH TIME--I'M FINE!
THE WORLD NEEDS HELP, NOT ME! SO LET'S GET TO PIN-POINTING THAT EMERALD ALREADY!
GRR...YOU STUBBORN...
I SENSE THE CHAOS EMERALD'S ENERGY IS NEAR...JUST A FEW MILES TO THE SOUTH OF US...
YOU MIGHT AS WELL EXPLAIN IT NOW. THE ONLY THING SOUTH OF HERE IS THE EGG ARMY'S BASE.
WHAT IN THE WORLD?
"MYSTIC MELODY." NEW TRICK SHE LEARNED UNDER THE OCEAN. I'LL ...EXPLAIN LATER.**
IF YOU WANT TO GRAB THE EMERALD BEFORE THEY SHIP IT OFF, WE'LL NEED TO STRIKE TONIGHT...
**STH #260-263.

"...AND MONSTERS COME OUT IN THE DARK. SO REST UP."
THAT NIGHT--EGG ARMY DIG SITE.

SOMETHING'S WRONG. SECURITY IS TOO LIGHT...
'CAUSE WE ALREADY TOOK OUT THE SUPER-BADNIK!
BUT THEY SHOULD STILL BE GUARDING AGAINST THE DARK GAIA MONSTERS!

FINE--THEN WE'RE AMBUSHING THEM NOW! WOO!
SONIC! THAT WASN'T THE PLAN!

VREEE!
PIKO!

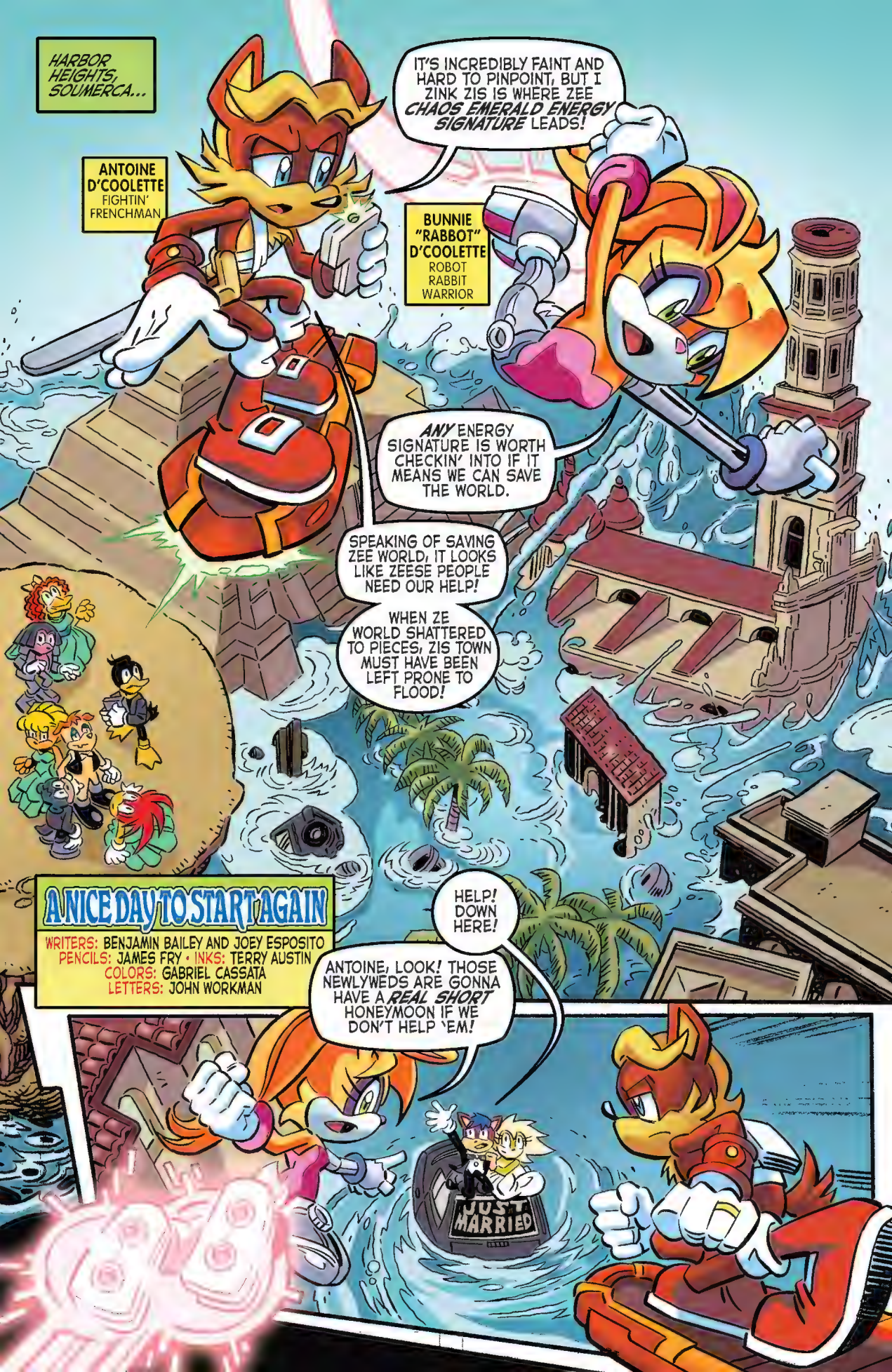
OR...THE EGG ARMY IS ALL ASLEEP? EITHER WAY--WE WON. SO LET'S GRAB THE EMERALD AND--

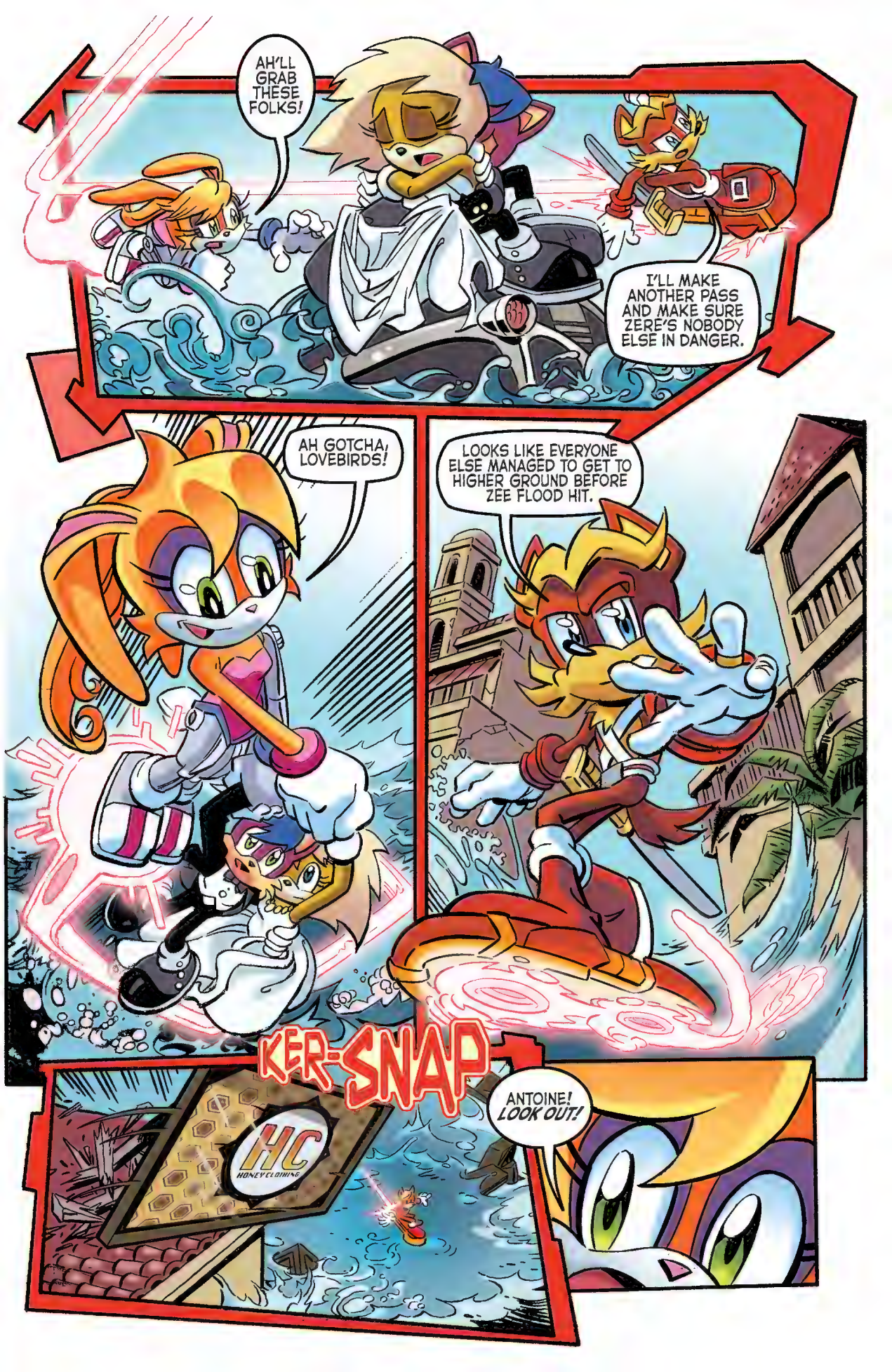
VVVT!
CLACK!
VORT!
YOU'VE GIVEN LORD EGGMAN SO MUCH TROUBLE, SONIC. I HONESTLY DIDN'T THINK YOU'D FALL FOR OUR TRAP SO EASILY.
BUT YOU WON'T HAVE TO LIVE WITH THE INDIGNITY FOR LONG. I DON'T TAKE PRISONERS!
EGG BOSS THUNDERBOLT
REGIONAL TYRANT

VORT!
AHHH!
RAY!
VORT!
RAY! I'M--
RRRRGHG!
SONIC! WE'VE GOT TO--!
VORT!
SONIC--
AHHH!
VORT!

VORT!

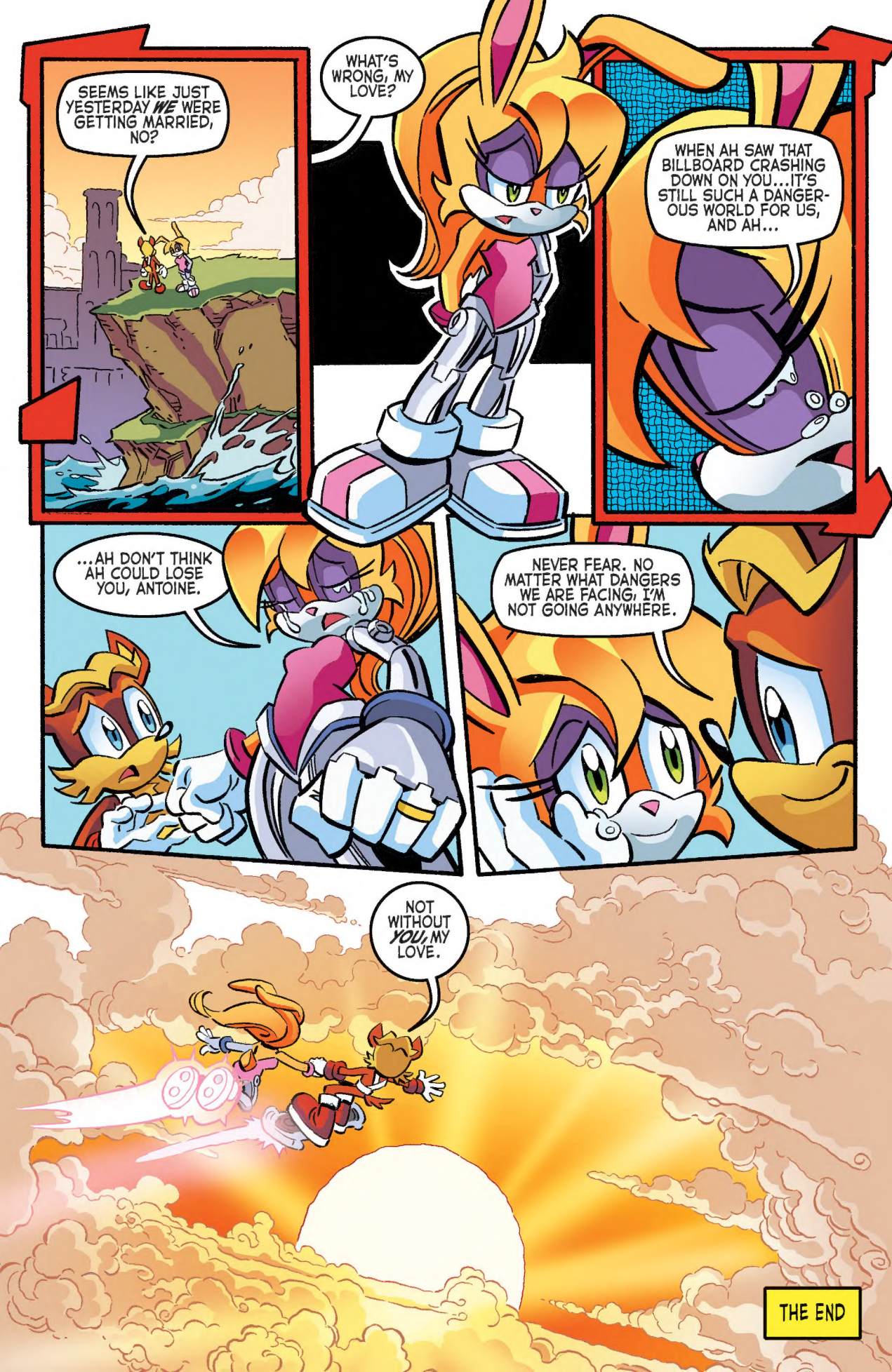
AAAAARRR OOOOHH!
NEXT TIME: SONIC THE WEREHOG--
UNLEASHED!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC UNIVERSE, SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST, AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!


HARBOR HEIGHTS, SOUMERCA...
ANTOINE D'COOLETTE FIGHTIN' FRENCHMAN
IT'S INCREDIBLY FAINT AND HARD TO PINPOINT, BUT I ZINK ZIS IS WHERE ZEE CHAOS EMERALD ENERGY SIGNATURE LEADS!
BUNNIE "RABBOT" D'COOLETTE ROBOT RABBIT WARRIOR
ANY ENERGY SIGNATURE IS WORTH CHECKIN' INTO IF IT MEANS WE CAN SAVE THE WORLD.
SPEAKING OF SAVING ZEE WORLD, IT LOOKS LIKE ZEESE PEOPLE NEED OUR HELP!
WHEN ZE WORLD SHATTERED TO PIECES, ZIS TOWN MUST HAVE BEEN LEFT PRONE TO FLOOD!
A NICE DAY TO START AGAIN
WRITERS: BENJAMIN BAILEY AND JOEY ESPOSITO
PENCILS: JAMES FRY • INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLORS: GABRIEL CASSATA
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN
HELP! DOWN HERE!
ANTOINE, LOOK! THOSE NEWLYWEDS ARE GONNA HAVE A REAL SHORT HONEYMOON IF WE DON'T HELP 'EM!
JUST MARRIED


AH'LL GRAB THESE FOLKS!
I'LL MAKE ANOTHER PASS AND MAKE SURE ZERE'S NOBODY ELSE IN DANGER.
AH GOTCHA, LOVEBIRDS!
LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE ELSE MANAGED TO GET TO HIGHER GROUND BEFORE ZEE FLOOD HIT.
KER-SNAP
HC
HONEYCLOTHING
ANTOINE! LOOK OUT!

ZUT ALORS!
HC
HONEY CLOTHING
HONEY
KA-SPLASH
ZERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT OF ZIS ONE, I GUESS.
I BELIEVE ZEE TERM IS, "SURF'S UP!"
OH, THANK GOODNESS!
UM, MISS, WATCH OUT FOR THOSE --!!!
WHOA!
SQUAWK
FLAP!
FLAP!
FLAP!
MY WEDDING FLICKIES!!!

I'VE GOT YOU, BABE! I TOLD YOU THE FLICKIES WERE OVER-KILL!
HANG ON TO ME!
I'M--I'M SLIPPING!
NOOO!
AHHHH!
DON'T WORRY, MISS, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO BE SWEPT OFF YOUR FEET ON YOUR WEDDING DAY!
THANKS FOR COMING BACK FOR ME, MISS!
DON'T SWEAT IT, DARLIN'. SORRY THAT AH...FUMBLED BACK THERE.
BAD NEWS, MY DEAR. LOOKS LIKE ZEE SIGNAL HAS FADED. IT MUST HAVE JUST BEEN AN ENERGY SHADOW.
I'M AFRAID ZERE'S NO CHAOS EMERALD HERE.
HOPEFULLY, SONIC AND THE OTHERS FARED BETTER. EITHER WAY, IT'S A GOOD THING WE FOLLOWED THAT LEAD. THIS WEDDING CELEBRATION COULDA BEEN A WEDDING DISASTER.


SEEMS LIKE JUST YESTERDAY *WE* WERE GETTING MARRIED, NO?
WHAT'S WRONG, MY LOVE?
WHEN AH SAW THAT BILLBOARD CRASHING DOWN ON YOU...IT'S STILL SUCH A DANGEROUS WORLD FOR US, AND AH...
...AH DON'T THINK AH COULD LOSE YOU, ANTOINE.
NEVER FEAR. NO MATTER WHAT DANGERS WE ARE FACING, I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
NOT WITHOUT *YOU,* MY LOVE.
THE END

SONIC-GRAMS FAN ART

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Pamela U. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Gary H. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

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OFF PANEL

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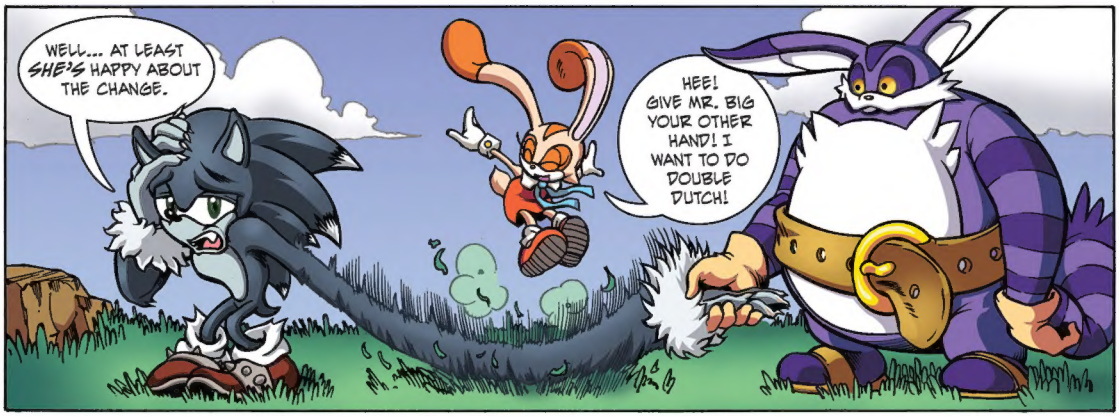
INKS: RICK BRYANT COLORS: STEVEN LISEFSKI



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SONIC-GRAMS

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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
This is my first time writing to you and let me say, I really appreciate the effort you all put into the comics, both STH and SU.

Thank you!

I have a few questions I would like to ask.

Serving up a fresh batch of "the usual"!

First of all, will we be seeing the return on Snively? He was very intriguing and one of my favorite characters.

Yes! As a matter of fact, Snively is currently assisting Team Dark in the story arc "Total Eclipse" which just began in Sonic Universe #67 -- on sale now, be sure to pick it up!

Also, how did the Pumpkin Hill Zone form? Why pumpkins? What causes the light from within the pumpkins?

The origin of Pumpkin Hill is as mysterious and ghostly as the zone itself. In fact, it's too chilling to even explain here! As for the lights coming out of the pumpkins, they are emitted from haunted flashlights that never run out of power! Naturally.

And finally, will there ever be a Sonic movie? (Live action or animated?)

Your Most Boss Fan,
Travis W.
From Oklahoma

Thanks for writing to us, Travis! There is one in development and we can't wait to see it!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Wow, you guys sure have a lot of fans, and I'm one of them.

It's been a hot summer, we can always use more fans!

What took you guys so long to make a Sonic Unleashed comic?

Ian had a bunch of stories he wanted to tell before reaching the events of Sonic Unleashed. We did have an "Unleashed" story waaaay back in STH#219, though! Check it out on the Sonic Comics App! plugplugplugplugplug

When will the Sonic Boom comics be published?

Thank you.
Coolest Sonic Fan,
Kristy C sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thank you for the letter, Kristy! You can snag your first issue of Sonic Boom this October! You can order your subscription today with the coupon towards the start of this issue!

See y'all next month for the incredible conclusion of "Control"!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #264

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